

STATEMENT BY
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BEFORE THE
SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE
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Two events over the past year have dominated discussions about the State Department's security programs. I am speaking of the September 1984 bombing of our Embassy Annex in Beirut and the discovery of implants in several of our electric typewriters in Moscow. These two events have highlighted areas where we needed to improve our security programs; they have also overshadowed our past and ongoing successes.

Even before the September 1984 Beirut bombing or the discovery of the implants, the Secretary had formed an Advisory Panel on Overseas Security, chaired by retired Admiral Bobby Inman, to take a hard look at our security programs overseas and to recommend improvements. The Secretary wanted an unvarnished assessment of our security. He got what he asked for.

The Inman Panel submitted its final report in June

with 106 sweeping recommendations covering, among other things, physical security, technical security, interagency and intradepartmental coordination, counter-terrorism programs, accountability, and a security construction program. These recommendations form the core of the comprehensive security enhancement program we are proposing; the legislative and budgetary packages for this program are now undergoing OMB review before being transmitted shortly to the Congress.

Besides requesting the funds to finance this program -- \$4.2 billion over five budget years -- the proposed legislation would establish within the Department a highly disciplined corps of professional security officers in a Diplomatic Security Service. This Service would be part of a new Bureau of Diplomatic Security. This reorganization would enable us to consolidate the Department's security-related functions and greatly clarify lines of responsibility within the Department. It is also an important step towards building a diplomatic security service which could meet our growing security challenges overseas. The proposed legislation would also establish Accountability Review Boards in the event of incidents involving serious injury, loss of life, or destruction of property.

Under this security program we propose to rebuild 62 of our facilities which are most vulnerable to terrorists and spies; we will substantially renovate about 43 other facilities. We will also enhance our technical security countermeasures, training, local guard programs, residential security, perimeter security, and coordination. We will take on added responsibilities for protecting foreign diplomats and visiting foreign officials in the United States.

These are dramatic initiatives. They are also essential if we are truly serious about making our personnel and facilities overseas safe from the variety of threats they face daily.

But this supplemental request is only part of our overall security program. Meanwhile we are building and strengthening our existing security programs at a rate which is unprecedented in the Department of State, or, perhaps, in the U.S. Government. Our accomplishments have been many, but have not attracted the attention they have merited. For example:

-- We are nearly doubling the number of professional

security officers assigned overseas.

- We are more than doubling the number of security engineering officers.
- We are increasing by 20 percent the number of Marine Security Guards attached to our posts overseas. We are sending Marine Security Guard detachments to 37 posts which previously had no Marine protection.
- We are increasing by one third the number of Seabees attached to the State Department. This welcome influx of Seabees will enable us to complete many of our essential and sensitive security construction projects more rapidly.
- We are dispatching Mobile Training Teams overseas to train our personnel to protect themselves in high-threat environments. These teams also train our local guards -- now numbering over 8,000 worldwide.
- We have nearly doubled the size of our fully armored vehicle fleet worldwide. By the end of Fiscal Year 1986, we will have provided a fully armored vehicle to every chief of mission and principal officer in Europe

(EUR), the Middle East (NEA), and Latin America (ARA).

-- In 1985 alone we made physical security improvements at 177 overseas posts at a cost of \$53.9 million.

We have an effective security program now. We are proud of our accomplishments. We are, however, not overawed by our successes; nor are we discouraged by our setbacks.

Our personnel overseas are on the front lines of the fight against terrorism and espionage. They need and deserve the best security we can provide. That, in a nutshell, is our commitment and our goal.